

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

CATEGORY = 1

(b) (3) -P.L. 86-36

M = 744

MESSAGE = 00278728

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TO OSCAR SIX/GOLF

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ENP01-TZ27047 2/06/VCK-E/R81-67 PRELIMINARY AIR ACTIVITY REPORT

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INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN REPRESENTS PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF SIGINT AVAILABLE TO USJ-794 FOR 27 APRIL 1967. REFERENCE MY 2/06/VCK-E/R78-67. THE FOLLOWING IS SUPPLEMENTAL DATA TO SECTION THREE, ITEM ONE, OF ABOVE REFERENCED REPORT. ADDITIONAL DATA HAS BECOME AVAILABLE THAT CORRELATES WITH THIS MIG ENGAGEMENT. ACCORDING TO OPERATIONAL DATA, CRAB TWO (ONE F105) WAS HIT APPROXIMATELY 2112H 105500E AT 0203Z. VERY SHORTLY AFTERWARDS THE PILOT REPORTED HE WAS BAILING OUT. THE SOURCE OF HOSTILE FIRE COULD NOT BE DETERMINED. ACCORDING TO A FRENCH PRESS RELEASE FROM HANOI ON 27 APRIL, ON THE EVENING OF 25 APRIL A FRENCH CORRESPONDENT VISITED THE VILLAGE OF VAN HA, ABOUT 16 NM NORTHEAST OF HANOI, WHERE A F105 HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN ABOUT 0200Z AND THE PILOT CAPTURED. HOWEVER, IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE PILOT HAD SUBSEQUENTLY DIED ABOUT 1000Z THE SAME DATE. A PEASANT WHO SAW THE SHOOTDOWN TOLD THE CORRESPONDENT THAT TWO MIG-17'S HAD ATTACKED THE F105 WITH MISSILES. DRV TACTICAL VOICE INDICATES THAT MIGS ATTACKED UNIDENTIFIED HOSTILES AT 0202Z. HOWEVER A REFERENCE TO ONE PILOT CLEARING HIS WEAPON WOULD INDICATE A PLAT CANNON WAS USED RATHER THAN MISSILES. SECTION ONE - SUMMARY OF AIR DEFENSE AND TACTICAL AIR ACTIVITY FOR 27 APRIL. HIGHLIGHTING ACTIVITY FOR THIS DATE WAS THE DRV MULTICHANNEL REFLECTION OF A SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE (SAM) BATTALION CONDUCTING PROBABLE TRAINING ACTIVITY (SEE SECTION TWO). OTHER THAN THIS ACTIVITY, IN WHICH TWO SAMs WERE REPORTEDLY LAUNCHED, THERE WERE NO OTHER SIGINT REFLECTIONS OF SAM LAUNCH ACTIVITY. A MINIMUM OF 24 MIG SORTIES WERE FLOWN OVER THE DRV. ACTIVITY CONSISTED OF TEST/CHECK-OUT AND NAVIGATIONAL TRAINING FLIGHTS. COMINT REFLECTED 14 ACTIVE SAM BATTALIONS. WHILE ONE ELINT IMPACT WAS OBTAINED [REDACTED] SIGINT REFLECTED 27 ACTIVE RADAR STATIONS USING 39 PIECES OF RADAR EQUIPMENT. INTERCEPT OF DRV AIR SURVEILLANCE FACILITIES INDICATES THAT 19 OF THESE STATIONS REPORTED 624 TRACKS. SECTION TWO - SAM BATTALION CONDUCTS TRAINING ACTIVITY. FROM 1044Z TO 1104Z, DRV MULTICHANNEL COMMUNICATIONS REFLECTED SAM BATTALION V1451 (2110H 105300E) CONDUCTING PRACTICE MISSILE LAUNCH ACTIVITY. AT APPROXIMATELY 1047Z, A SPEAKER AT V1451, WHILE TRACKING A TARGET IN THE VICINITY OF HANOI, ASKED AN UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER IF THERE WERE ANY MIGS LEFT IN THE AREA: NO ANSWER WAS NOTED. THIS TARGET WAS SUBSEQUENTLY TRACKED TO A LAST NOTED POSITION APPROXIMATELY FIVE NMS NORTH OF PHUC YEN AT 1148Z. AT 1150Z, THIS SPEAKER REPORTED TO THE CONTROLLER THAT NO MORE TARGETS WERE IN HIS AREA. IN A POST LAUNCH REPORT (PLR) THIS SPEAKER REPORTED LAUNCHING TWO SAMs AT 12 SECOND INTERVALS AT A FLIGHT OF TWO AIRCRAFT FLYING AT AN ALTITUDE OF 8,300 FEET. THE MISSILES WERE LAUNCHED WITH A SITE TO TARGET RANGE OF 12 AND 11 NMS, RESPECTIVELY, USING THE "INTERCEPT" METHOD OF LAUNCH. THE "ALTITUDE ERROR" WAS REPORTED AS PLUS ONE AND THE "DEGREE AZIMUTH ERROR" AS PLUS FOUR. THE TARGET REPORTEDLY HAD TAKEN EVASIVE ACTION AND WAS REPORTED AT AN ALTITUDE OF 9,800 FEET AFTER THE LAUNCH. AT THIS TIME THE SPEAKER

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REPORTED THAT THE FIRST MISSILE HAD DESTROYED THE TARGET. CONTINUING THE PLR, THE SPEAKER STATED THAT THE FANSONG WAS USED TO SEARCH BECAUSE THE SPOONREST COULD NOT PICK-UP ALL OF THE TARGETS. UPON CONCLUSION, THE SPEAKER STATED THAT NO RESULTS WERE AVAILABLE FOR THE SECONDSAM BECAUSE THEY COULD NOT FOLLOW IN AFTER THE FIRST MISSILE EJECTED. THE FACT THAT NO U.S. AIRCRAFT WERE SCHEDULED OVER THIS AREA DURING THIS PERIOD, COUPLED WITH DRV AIR SURVEILLANCE AND TACTICAL VOICE REFLECTIONS OF 16 MIGS FROM PHUC YEN AND HANOI GIA LAM ORBITING IN AN AREA FROM PHUC YEN TO 15 NMS SOUTH OF HANOI STRONGLY SUGGESTS THAT THE ABOVE ACTIVITY WAS OF A TRAINING NATURE RATHER THAN ACTUAL LAUNCH ACTIVITY. SECTION THREE - AIR DEFENSE AND TACTICAL AIR ACTIVITY. 1. FORTY-TWO MIG SORTIES WERE PREFLIGHTED FOR 27 APRIL: 16 FROM HANOI GIA LAM, 14 FROM PHUC YEN, EIGHT FROM HOALAC AND FOUR FROM KEP. ACTIVITY WAS SCHEDULED FOR BOTH DAY AND NIGHT HOURS OVER NORMAL COURSE TRAINING AREAS. A MINIMUM OF TWENTY-FOUR MIG SORTIES WERE FLOWN: 14 FROM HANOI GIA LAM AND TEN FROM PHUC YEN. AT LEAST FIVE KORCOM PILOTS WERE REFLECTED SIGNAL CHECKING WITH THE KEP CONTROLLER. HOWEVER, THE (KORCOM5) WERE NOT REFLECTED AIRBORNE. ACTIVITY OCCURRED FROM 0730Z TO 1420Z AND CONSISTED OF PROBABLE TEST/CHECKOUT FLIGHTS AND DAY AND NIGHT NAVIGATIONAL TRAINING FLIGHTS. READ: TIME OF ACTIVITY/NUMBER OF SORTIES/TYPE OF AIRCRAFT/NATIONALITY IF OTHER THAN VIETNAMESE/TYPE OF ACTIVITY AND AREA/ALTITUDES/SPEEDS/COMMENTS TO INCLUDE ELINT CORRELATIONS. XXHH 899 NHHH

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SECTION TWO - CONT: AT 0841Z, V1466 STATED THAT HE HAD LAUNCHED TWO MISSILES AND HAD POSSIBLY DESTROYED THE TARGET BUT DID NOT AS YET KNOW THE RESULTS OF THE LAUNCHES. AT 0857H, V1463 REPORTED "WE HAVE SHOT DOWN ONE F4C". IT IS BELIEVED THAT V1463 AMBIGUOUSLY USED "WE" TO REFER TO THE LAUNCH BY V1466 AT 0841Z. AT 0858Z, AN UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER STATED THAT FRIENDLY AIRCRAFT WERE REPORTEDLY FLYING AT 6,600 FEET. AT 0901Z, V1463 STATED THAT HE COULD NOT DETERMINE IF THE TARGET WAS HOSTILE AND THEREFORE COULD NOT LAUNCH. AT 0904Z, THIS BATTALION WAS INSTRUCTED TO DESTROY A TARGET IN THE VICINITY OF 2055N 10522E AND AGAIN AT 0906Z, WAS INSTRUCTED TO DESTROY A TARGET ON AN AZIMUTH OF 210 DEGREES, APPROXIMATELY 22 NMS FROM THE SITE. AT 0916Z, V1466 WAS INSTRUCTED TO DESTROY A TARGET IN THE VICINITY OF 2105N 10510E. AT 0933Z, AN UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER, IN A POST LAUNCH REPORT, REPORTED LAUNCHING ONE MISSILE ON AN AZIMUTH OF 180 DEGREES WHILE THE TARGET WAS FLYING AT 4,900 FEET. HE FURTHER REPORTED THAT THE MISSILE DID NOT DETONATE, AND EVEN LATER, THAT THE TARGET HAD TAKEN EVASIVE ACTION AND WAS NOT DESTROYED BECAUSE THE MISSILE DETONATION WAS NOT CLOSE ENOUGH. HE ALSO STATED THAT WAS JAMMING AT THE TIME OF THE MISSILE LAUNCH. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF SAMs LAUNCHED OF THE SPECIFIC BATTALIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR LAUNCH DUE TO THE INVOLVEMENT OF FOUR OF THE FIVE BATTALIONS OF THE 236TH REGIMENT IN THIS ACTIVITY. OPERATIONAL REPORTS REFLECT FOUR U.S. AIRCRAFT DOWNED OVER THE DRV FOR THIS DATE. ONE OF THESE AIRCRAFT POSSIBLY CORRELATE TO SHOOTDOWN NOTED IN THE ABOVE ACTIVITY. THE SOURCE OF THE JAMMING REFERRED TO DURING THE LAUNCHES IS ATTRIBUTED TO THE STRIKE AIRCRAFT WHICH WERE EQUIPPED WITH ARC-160 PODS. 2. FROM 0848Z TO 1026Z, 24 APRIL, DRV MULTICHANNEL COMMUNICATIONS REFLECTED THE LAUNCHING OF A MINIMUM OF FOUR SAMs AGAINST U.S. NAVY AIRCRAFT BOMBING KEP AIRFIELD. THE MISSILES WERE LAUNCHED BY SAM BATTALION V1470, LOCATED IN THE BAC GIANG AREA AT 2118N 10614E. AT 0848Z, THE FIRST HOSTILE RATD WAS DETECTED APPROXIMATELY 30 NMS EAST OF THE SAM SITE AND SUBSEQUENTLY TRACKED NORTH-WEST TO WITHIN 10 NMS. AT 0851:22Z, THE LAUNCH OF TWO MISSILES AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF AAA WAS AUDIBLE THROUGH OPEN MIDE CONDITIONS. THE TARGET, APPARENTLY ABLE TO EVADE THE MISSILES, WAS TRACKED TO A POSITION 21 NMS EAST OF THE SITE HERE TRACKING EASED AT 0857Z. THE HOSTILE REPORTED ALTITUDE AT THE TIME OF LAUNCH WAS 3,300 FEET. AT 0855Z, A SECOND HOSTILE RATD WAS DETECTED APPROXIMATELY 17 NMS EAST OF THE SITE AND SUBSEQUENTLY TRACKED TO A POSITION 15 NMS SOUTH-EAST. AT 0857:05Z, THE SOUND OF TWO MISSILES BEING LAUNCHED, AGAIN WITH A BACKGROUND OF AAA, WAS AUDIBLE THROUGH OPEN MIKE CONDITIONS. THE HOSTILE AIRCRAFT COMPRISING THIS RATD WERE APPARENTLY SUCCESSFUL IN EVADING THE SAMs LAUNCHED AGAINST THEM AND WERE TRACKED 35 NMS TO THE

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EASTHERE TRACKING CEASED AT 0903Z. THE HOSTILE REPORTED ALTITUDE AT THE TIME OF LAUNCH WAS 4,900 FEET. OPERATIONAL REPORTS INDICATE THAT AT 0858Z, BUCKEYE PLIGHT (UNKNOWN NUMBER OF U.S. NAVY A6A'S) OBSERVED TWO SAMS IN THE VICINITY OF 2120N 10630E. THESE SIGHTINGS PROBABLY CORRELATE TO THE LAUNCH ACTIVITY AT 0857Z. FROM 0854Z TO 0856Z, SEVERAL REFERENCES WERE MADE TO JAMMING. AN UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER, PROBABLY THE REGIMENTAL CONTROLLER, IN REFERENCE TO THE JAMMING STATED "JAUST BEAM GENERALLY AND THE ONE THAT SHOWS UP BEST... SPIRIT HIM". AT 0858Z, THE REGIMENTAL CONTROLLER INFORMED THE SITE OF MIG ACTIVITY IN THE AREA AND STATED THAT THE MIGS WOULD OPERATE ABOVE 6,500 FEET. AT 0902Z, AN UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER STATED "FIRING ROCKETS" AND SUBSEQUENTLY REPORTED A U.S. AIRCRAFT BURNING; THAT TWO AIRMEN HAD BAILED OUT; AND THAT HE SAW TWO YELLOW CHUTES. HE WAS TOLD TO SEND QUOTE YOUR MEN RUNNING TO SEARCH UNQUOTE IF THE CHUTES LANDED CLOSE. NO FURTHER REFERENCES WERE MADE TO THE DOWNED AIRCRAFT OF THE CREW MEMBERS. AT 0911Z, THE CONTROLLER AGAIN INFORMED THE BATTALION OF MIG ACTIVITY IN THE AREA AND INSTRUCTED THE SITE TO CONTINUE TO STRIKE AT AIRCRAFT ABOVE 6500 FEET. OPERATIONAL DATA INDICATES THAT AT 0929Z A U.S. NAVY A6A WAS REPORTEDLY DOWN TO UNKNOWN CAUSES IN THE VICINITY OF 2120N 10625E. THERE WERE NO OPEN MIKE CLARIFICATION OF THESE LAUNCHES AS WAS THE CASE IN THE PRECEDING LAUNCHES. DUE TO THE CLOSE PROXIMITY OF AAA DEFENSE TO THE SITE IT CAN NOT BE ASCERTAINED WHETHER THE DOWNING OF THIS AIRCRAFT HAS CAUSED BY SAMS OR AAA. OPERATIONAL REPORTS FURTHER REVEAL THAT U.S. PILOTS OBSERVED 43 SAMS AND THAT FOUR U.S. AIRCRAFT WERE LOST OVER THE NORTHERN DRV. THE LOSS OF ONE OF THESE AIRCRAFT EQUATES TO THE SHOOT-DOWN REPORTED IN THE ABOVE ACTIVITY. THE SOURCE OF THE JAMMING REFERRED TO DURING THIS ACTIVITY IS ATTRIBUTED TO THE STRIKE AIRCRAFT WHICH WERE EQUIPPED WITH ARC-160 PODS. XXXX 900 NNNN

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CATEGORY = 8

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SECTION THREE - FIGHTER NIGHTS. FROM 0150Z TO 0226Z, DRV TACTICAL VOICE AND ASREFLECTED EIGHT HANOI GIA LAM-BASED MIG-17'S PERFORMING DEFENSIVE PATROL IN REACTION TO HOSTILE AIRCRAFT. THE MIGS PATROLLED WITHIN A 10 NMS RADIUS OF HOA LAC. PRE-LIMINARY ANALYSIS OF TACTICAL VOICE INTERCEPT INDICATES THAT THE MIGS ENGAGED WITH MORE THAN ONE FLIGHT OF HOSTILE AIRCRAFT DURING THIS ACTIVITY. OPERATIONAL REPORTS INDICATE THAT AT LEAST THREE FLIGHTS OF U.S. STRIKE AIRCRAFT: ~~NEWARK~~ (4 F-105'S), TICO (4 F-105'S) AND OPAL (4 F-105'S) REPORTED SIGHTING MIG-17'S IN THE AREA OF HANOI AND HOA LAC BETWEEN 0200-0205Z. TICO 3 REPORTED AN ~~ENGAGEMENT~~ WITH TWO MIG-17'S AT 0202Z. HOA AIRCRAFT LOSSES WERE REPORTED AS A RESULT OF THIS ENGAGEMENT. THE MIGS SUBSEQUENTLY RECOVERED AT HANOI GIA LAM AT 0226Z. THE LACK OF AVAILABLE TACTICAL VOICE INFORMATION PRECLUDES FURTHER AMPLIFICATION OF THE ABOVE ACTIVITY AT THIS TIME. 2. FROM 0203Z TO 0243Z, DRV TACTICAL VOICE AND ASREFLECTED EIGHT KORCOM PILOTED PHUC YEN-BASED MIG-17'S, IN TWO FLIGHTS OF FOUR AIRCRAFT EACH, RETURNING TO BASE AFTER A PROBABLE ATTEMPTED INTERCEPT/ATTACK AGAINST HOSTILE AIRCRAFT. THE AIRCRAFT WERE INITIALLY REFLECTED OVER THE VICINITY OF THE AIRFIELD EPDOVHAT 0208Z. THE JAPHUC YEN TOWER CONTROLLER INKAKED ON OF THE FLIGHT LEADERS ON "DID YOU ATTACK?" THE PILOT REPLIED "IT WAS NOT ABLE TO." THE CONTROLLER THEN ASKED, DO "YOU MEAN YOU TRIED BUT COULDN'T?" TO WHICH THE PILOT REPLIED "THAT IS CORRECT." ALL THE MIGS SUBSEQUENTLY LANDED AT PHUC YEN BY 0243Z. 3. FROM 0251Z TO 0330Z, DRV TACTICAL VOICE AND ASREFLECTED EIGHT HANOI GIA LAM-BASED MIG-17'S PERFORMING DEFENSIVE PATROLS IN REACTION TO HOSTILE AIRCRAFT OVERHAIPHONG. THE MIGS PATROLLED OVER AN AREA EXTENDING APPROXIMATELY 151, 197501, 1975023, 5 9: 1-8049, 1. PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF TACTICAL VOICE INTERCEPT INDICATED NO HOSTILE INTENT OR AGGRESSIVENESS ON THE PART OF THE MIGS. HOWEVER, OPERATIONAL REPORTS INDICATE THAT TWO FLIGHTS OF U.S. NAVAL AIRCRAFT, NICKEL FLIGHT (2 F-8E'S) AND ~~SUNGLASS~~ FLIGHT (2 A-4C'S), ENGAGED WITH TWO MIG-17'S AT 0309Z AND 0312Z, RESPECTIVELY. SUNGLASS FLIGHT REPORTED THE LOSS OF ONE A-4C AS A PROBABLE RESULT OF THE MIG ENGAGEMENT. THE CAUSE OF THIS LOSS CAN NOT, AS YET, BE CONFIRMED BY SIGHT SOURCES. 4. FROM 0820Z TO 0942Z, DRV TACTICAL VOICE FACILITIES REFLECTED TWELVE KORCOM PILOTED, PHUC YEN-BASED MIG-17'S, PERFORMING DEFENSIVE PATROLS IN REACTION TO AT LEAST THREE FLIGHTS OF HOSTILE AIRCRAFT. THE KORCOMS FLEW IN THREE FLIGHTS OF FOUR MIGS EACH AND PATROLLED OVER THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF PHUC YEN. DURING THIS PERIOD, DRV AS REFLECTED AT LEAST THREE FLIGHTS OF HOSTILE AIRCRAFT ENTERING THE DRV, APPROACHING THE THAI NGUYEN AREA FROM THE WEST AND THEN DEPARTING THE AREA FOLLOWING APPROXIMATELY THE SAME ROUTE. NO HOSTILE INTENT WAS NOTED ON THE PART OF THE MIGS AND NO ENGAGEMENTS OCCURRED. 5. FROM

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